

WEEKLY BULLETIN

CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ESTABLISHED APRIL 15, 1870
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MARCH 6, 1943

GUY P. JONES
Editor

DEFENSE AGAINST CHEMICAL WARFARE

(Continued from last issue)

Streets

Paved streets, lightly contaminated, may be rendered safe for use by washing them down with a heavy stream of water from a hose. Bleach paste or sand and bleach mixture should first be used on all heavily contaminated areas.

Walls and floors

The walls of buildings should be thoroughly sprayed or well scrubbed with a mixture of equal weights of bleach and water. A second decontamination may be necessary since paint, wood, concrete or brick absorb mustard. The above treatment should be followed by liberal application of hot water and soap, then an application of washing soda. Floors should be covered with a bleach paste to a depth of one inch and allowed to remain covered for from six to 24 hours. After removal of the paste, a thorough scrubbing is indicated as well as complete aeration.

Metal equipment

Tools, etc., should be first washed or swabbed with rags saturated in gasoline (nonleaded) or other solvent. These rags should then be destroyed. Apply bleach solution to tools and follow with application of hot soapy water. Rinse and thoroughly dry, then oil. Care should be taken, where the corrosive action of the bleach will cause excessive damage, to remove bleach as soon as practicable.

Clothing

Contaminated clothing shall be removed *at once*. Contamination may result from contact with the liquid chemical agent or from exposure to the vapors.

Gross contamination by the liquid would indicate destruction of the clothing by burning, although prolonged steaming would eventually result in decontamination. Vapor contamination can be counteracted by steaming from four to six hours and exposure to sunlight and fresh air for at least two days. Ordinary dry cleaning is not considered sufficient treatment. Contaminated shoes should be shuffled in a box containing a mixture of sand and chloride of lime to remove any unabsorbed liquid gas, but once the agent has penetrated the leather little can be done to make them safe for wear.

Mobile equipment

Automobiles, street cars, buses, etc., will require much the same treatment as that given tools and metal equipment where outside contamination is involved. Thorough scrubbing with a bleach paste and hot soapy water will serve to decontaminate the exterior. Final application should be made with oil to prevent rusting of metal surfaces. Exterior upholstery should be removed, scrubbed with bleach paste and aired. In general, it will be more satisfactory to destroy upholstery and replace with new.

Decontamination equipment

- 1 Shuffle box (wood)
- 20 cans (50 lb. each) chloride of lime
- 1 gallon oil, medium, lubricating (labeled)
- 2 cans (5 gal. each) kerosene (labeled)
- 4 brushes, whitewash (long handled)
- 4 apparatus, decontaminating, 3 gallon (pressure type) complete with paddle and funnel, M2
- 10 yards cheesecloth, medium, 2 feet wide

- 6 shovels (long handled)
- 4 rakes
- 4 brushes, scrubbing
- 4 picks or pick mattocks
- 4 scythes or sickles
- 4 brooms, stable
- 8 brooms, common
- 8 buckets, G.I., 14 quart
- 1 can, galvanized, 15 gallons
- 1 axe, single bit
- 20 pounds rags, clean
- 24 signs, "Danger-GAS"
- 2 hoses, garden, 50-foot lengths
- 25 pounds of soap (yellow)
- 4 oilers, with spout, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint
- 4 lanterns, kerosene
- 6 flashlights
- 1 screwdriver, 6 inches
- 1 pliers, combination, 6 inches or 8 inches
- 4 curtains, gasproof
- Facilities for provision of water
- Full sets of protective clothing and masks for personnel

The following items are recommended for each squad in the first-aid kit:

- $\frac{1}{2}$ pound sodium bicarbonate
- 3 pounds soap, Government issue
- $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon kerosene
- 4 ounces hydrogen peroxide—3% solution
- $\frac{1}{2}$ pint High test bleach paste (mix in glass jar one part bleaching powder with one or two parts water)
- 1 teaspoon
- 3 medicine droppers, sterile gauze (for use as applicators)
- 3 ounces 2 per cent sodium bicarbonate solution in water

Decontamination squads

While it is probable that the individual will necessarily have to do a certain amount of decontamination work where homes are affected, public property, thoroughfares and public buildings will be handled by organized decontamination squads. Each squad should consist of a foreman or squad leader and at least five members. These five members should be men who are used to hard physical labor. The squad leader should be a man well versed in decontamination procedure and should be responsible for the training of his squad. He should supervise the work, maintain equipment and supplies and be responsible to the senior gas officer of his community.

BOARD REGULATES REUSE OF CLOSURES

Pursuant to Section 26473 of Division 21, Chapter 3 of the Health and Safety Code, the State Board of Public Health hereby adopts the following regulation governing the use of reconditioned container closures:

The reconditioning of container closures shall be as follows:

1. The reuse of crowns, caps, or other closures intended for packing for sale of a food, drug, or liquor is prohibited unless such closures are treated and/or sterilized as hereinafter provided.
2. Closures intended for the above-mentioned purpose shall not be reclaimed until equipment, methods, materials, and premises have been inspected and approved by a representative of the California State Department of Public Health, or city or county health departments delegated to inspect such premises by the State Board of Public Health following submittal of an application to engage in said business.
3. Applications shall be made yearly on a prescribed form setting forth the name and address of the firm, the method of reconditioning closures, and the approximate number of gross caps to be reconditioned each month.
4. Caps, crowns, and other closures shall be sorted to discard those which are damaged or unsuited for reconditioning.
5. Closures to be reconditioned shall first be washed in a suitable composition wash which will remove all varnish, coating, and old cork or other inside liner, followed by a thorough rinse in clean water.
6. Reshaping of closures shall be performed on suitable reshaping machines, and dried to remove all moisture from the metal.
7. Reshaped closures must be varnished, lacquered, or otherwise coated so as to protect the metal surfaces from rusting or corroding.
8. New cork or other suitable inserts of new material shall be firmly affixed to all reconditioned closures. No right will be granted to any manufacturer, processor, or packer of food, drug, or liquor to use more than once any insert made of cork, metal, plastic, paper, or other compound where said insert, used in any cap, crown, top, or other closure, has come in contact with any food, drug, or liquor to which said closure was attached.
9. The relined closures shall be sterilized by heating to a temperature of 170 degrees Fahrenheit for not less than 15 minutes, or the equivalent thereof, in appropriate order.
10. Following sterilization, closures shall be boxed in clean, dry cartons and stored so that they are securely protected from dust, dirt, and as far as may be necessary by all reasonable means from all other foreign or injurious contamination.

DR. PINKHAM RETIRES

Dr. Charles B. Pinkham, who has been Secretary of the State Board of Medical Examiners for three decades, retired recently, having reached the required age of retirement.

During his long term of office, Dr. Pinkham rendered valuable aid, not only to the practicing doctors of medicine in this State, but also to health officers. He conducted numerous intensive investigations into medical frauds and prosecuted violators of the Medical Practice Act. He contributed to the work of the California State Department of Public Health through cooperation in the enforcement of the pure drug laws, in the prosecution of fraudulent practitioners who impose upon the tuberculous and other imposters who jeopardize the confidence of the public in matters related to preventive medicine.

Few men have rendered more valuable service to the commonwealth than has Dr. Pinkham and the staff of the State Department of Public Health extends to him its best wishes for the coming years.

MATERNITY SUMMER SESSION

"The Public Health Nurse in a Maternal Health Program" will be offered to public health nurses during the first Summer Session at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, June 7 to 27, 1943. The Department of Public Health Nursing, through the School of Public Health, will direct the activities. Miss Louise Zetzsche, Supervisor of Maternal and Infant Welfare, Denver Visiting Nurse Association, Denver, Colorado, will be guest instructor. Four and one-half quarter hours of credit will be awarded upon completion of the course. For further information, write to Miss Margaret Blee, Assistant Professor of Public Health Nursing, Department of Public Health Nursing, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

CARLETON MATHEWSON, M.D.

Dr. Carleton Mathewson, who had been City Health Officer of Fresno for more than 25 years, died recently after having suffered an illness of several months' duration.

Dr. Mathewson had a long and varied experience in public health administration. He was one of a group of young physicians who worked in plague control when the disease first appeared in California at the turn of the century. He built up the Fresno City Health Department into an active organization, and it will be difficult to replace him because of his long experience and practical value in the administration of Fresno's public health.

REVISED LIST OF REPORTABLE DISEASES*Reportable Only:*

Anthrax
 Botulism—if commercial product notify State Department of Health at once.
 Coccidioidal Granuloma
 Dengue—keep patient in mosquito-free room.
 Epilepsy
 Food Poisoning
 Glanders—report by phone or telegraph.
 Jaundice—infectious or epidemic types.
 Malaria—keep patient in mosquito-free room.
 Pneumonia—specify type of pneumococcus if known.
 Relapsing Fever
 Rheumatic Fever
 Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
 Tetanus
 Trichinosis
 Tularemia
 Undulant Fever

Reportable and Subject to Isolation:

Epidemic diarrhea of the newborn (in institutions)
 Chickenpox
 Dysentery—Amoebic
 Dysentery—Bacillary—specify type if known.
 German Measles
 Influenza
 Measles
 Mumps
 Ophthalmia Neonatorum
 Psittacosis
 Rabies—in animals. Use special card.
 Rabies—in humans.
 Septic Sore Throat (in epidemic form).
 Trachoma
 Tuberculosis—use special card.
 Whooping Cough
 Syphilis—use special card.
 Gonorrhea—use special card.
 Chancroid—use special card.
 Lymphopathia Venereum—use special card.
 Granuloma—Inguinale—use special card.

Reportable and Subject to Quarantine and Placarding:

Cholera—report by telephone or telegraph to State Department of Health.
 Diphtheria
 Encephalitis (Infectious)—specify type if known.

NOTE: This means all forms of acute encephalitis such as St. Louis type, equine type, and any other epidemic form occurring in California.

Leprosy
 Meningitis (due to the meningococcus).
 Paratyphoid Fever—specify type A or B.
 Plague—report by telephone or telegraph to State Department of Health.
 Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis
 Scarlet Fever

REVISED LIST OF REPORTABLE DISEASES—Continued

Smallpox

Typhoid Fever

Typhus Fever

Yellow Fever—report by telephone or telegraph to State Department of Health.

MORBIDITY*

Complete Reports for Certain Diseases Recorded for Week Ending February 27, 1943

Chickenpox

1798 cases from the following counties: Alameda 115, Butte 12, Contra Costa 24, Fresno 41, Imperial 50, Inyo 3, Kern 58, Lassen 25, Los Angeles 346, Madera 16, Marin 18, Monterey 14, Napa 67, Orange 45, Riverside 34, Sacramento 24, San Benito 1, San Bernardino 47, San Diego 339, San Francisco 181, San Joaquin 70, San Luis Obispo 12, San Mateo 6, Santa Barbara 27, Santa Clara 56, Santa Cruz 10, Shasta 7, Siskiyou 2, Solano 82, Sonoma 61, Stanislaus 4, Sutter 4, Tehama 2, Trinity 1, Tulare 22, Ventura 12, Yolo 12, Yuba 2.

German Measles

963 cases from the following counties: Alameda 74, Butte 1, Contra Costa 8, Fresno 7, Inyo 10, Kern 12, Los Angeles 259, Marin 7, Mono 5, Monterey 3, Napa 1, Orange 72, Riverside 4, Sacramento 13, San Bernardino 29, San Diego 234, San Francisco 89, San Joaquin 26, San Luis Obispo 7, San Mateo 10, Santa Barbara 9, Santa Clara 44, Santa Cruz 6, Shasta 3, Solano 7, Sonoma 11, Sutter 1, Ventura 8, Yolo 1, Yuba 2.

Measles

408 cases from the following counties: Alameda 38, Colusa 1, Contra Costa 3, Fresno 7, Humboldt 2, Imperial 2, Inyo 1, Kern 5, Los Angeles 120, Madera 1, Marin 9, Merced 3, Monterey 2, Napa 3, Nevada 3, Orange 11, Riverside 6, Sacramento 20, San Benito 1, San Bernardino 12, San Diego 51, San Francisco 47, San Luis Obispo 2, San Mateo 9, Santa Barbara 4, Santa Clara 18, Santa Cruz 1, Solano 17, Sonoma 5, Ventura 2, Yuba 2.

Mumps

565 cases from the following counties: Alameda 35, Contra Costa 15, Fresno 19, Humboldt 4, Imperial 10, Inyo 2, Kern 12, Los Angeles 107, Madera 1, Marin 3, Monterey 1, Napa 36, Orange 8, Riverside 7, Sacramento 8, San Bernardino 5, San Diego 97, San Francisco 54, San Joaquin 86, San Mateo 8, Santa Clara 38, Solano 2, Sonoma 2, Stanislaus 2, Tulare 2, Ventura 1.

Scarlet Fever

162 cases from the following counties: Alameda 9, Contra Costa 3, Fresno 5, Humboldt 2, Imperial 1, Kern 3, Lassen 4, Los Angeles 52, Marin 6, Orange 3, Placer 1, Riverside 5, Sacramento 5, San Bernardino 5, San Diego 16, San Francisco 15, San Joaquin 1, San Mateo 2, Santa Barbara 2, Santa Clara 5, Santa Cruz 1, Solano 3, Stanislaus 5, Tulare 2, Yolo 1, Yuba 5.

Whooping Cough

402 cases from the following counties: Alameda 64, Del Norte 1, Fresno 2, Humboldt 11, Imperial 12, Kern 16, Lassen 3, Los Angeles 123, Madera 1, Marin 5, Mariposa 4, Merced 1, Monterey 6, Napa 1, Orange 2, Riverside 9, Sacramento 1, San Bernardino 5, San Diego 67, San Francisco 19, San Joaquin 8, San Luis Obispo 8, San Mateo 2, Santa Clara 7, Santa Cruz 1, Shasta 5, Sonoma 9, Stanislaus 3, Tehama 1, Ventura 3, Yolo 1, Yuba 1.

Diphtheria

46 cases from the following counties: Alameda 6, Butte 1, Imperial 2, Los Angeles 6, Marin 3, Merced 1, Riverside 3, Sacramento 4, San Bernardino 3, San Diego 1, San Francisco 1, San Joaquin 1, Santa Clara 4, Tulare 1, Yuba 9.

Epilepsy

52 cases from the following counties: Los Angeles 35, Napa 1, Orange 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento 6, San Bernardino 2, San Diego 1, San Francisco 5.

Coccidioides Granuloma

One case from Riverside County.

Dysentery (Bacillary)

2 cases from the following counties: Los Angeles 1, Solano 1.

Encephalitis (Infectious)

One case from Imperial County.

Food Poisoning

2 cases from the following counties: Los Angeles 1, San Joaquin 1.

* Data regarding the other reportable diseases not listed herein, may be obtained upon request.

Influenza (Epidemic)

68 cases reported in the State.

Jaundice (Infectious)

6 cases from the following counties: Fresno 5, Yuba 1.

Malaria

3 cases from Imperial County.

Meningitis (Meningococcic)

30 cases from the following counties: Alameda 4, Imperial 1, Los Angeles 4, Riverside 2, Sacramento 3, San Bernardino 2, San Diego 5, San Francisco 6, Santa Barbara 1, Ventura 1, Yuba 1.

Pneumonia (Infectious)

151 cases reported in the State.

Poliomyelitis (Acute Anterior)

3 cases from Los Angeles County.

Rabies (Animal)

23 cases from the following counties: Fresno 2, Inyo 1, Kings 1, Los Angeles 5, Monterey 5, San Diego 8, Solano 1.

Rheumatic Fever (Acute)

2 cases from Los Angeles County.

Tetanus

3 cases from the following counties: Los Angeles 1, Placer 1, Sonoma 1.

Typhoid Fever

One case from Los Angeles County.

Typhus Fever

One case from Los Angeles County.

Undulant Fever

7 cases from the following counties: Kern 1, Los Angeles 3, Monterey 1, Nevada 1, Sacramento 1.

Gonorrhea

188 cases reported in the State.

Syphilis

441 cases reported in the State.

We fight not for glory or for conquest. We exhibit to mankind the remarkable spectacle of a people attacked by unprovoked enemies, without any imputation or even suspicion of offense. They boast of their privileges and civilization, and yet proffer no milder conditions than servitude or death. In our native land, in defense of the freedom that is our birthright and which we never enjoyed till the late violation of it, for the protection of our property acquired solely by the honest industry of our forefathers and ourselves, against violence actually offered—we have taken up arms. We shall lay them down when hostilities shall cease on the part of the aggressors and all danger of their being renewed shall be removed, and not before.—Thomas Jefferson in 1775.

